

PATENT  
Reply under 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
Group 3641

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application. Claims 5, 10-13 and 17 are allowed. Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 14-16 and 18-21 are rejected. Claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 14-16 and 18-21 are canceled hereby. Claims 3, 4, 8 and 9 have been previously canceled.

Responsive to the rejection of claims 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,841,839 (Stuart), Applicant has canceled claims 20 and 21.

Responsive to the rejection of claims 20 and 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,375,337 (Butler), Applicant has canceled claims 20 and 21.

Responsive to the rejection of claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 14-16, 18 and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,449,314 (Sorensen), Applicant has canceled claims 1, 2, 6, 7, 14-16, 18 and 19.

At page 4 of the Office Action, claims 5, 10-13 and 17 are indicated allowed, for which courtesy the Examiner is thanked. For all of the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that claims 5, 10-13 and 17 are in condition for allowance, which is hereby respectfully requested.

It is further submitted that the requested amendments to the claims, submitted after the Office Action designated as Final, should be entered, in that the amendment will place all remaining claims in condition for allowance. Further, the requested amendments to the claims simplify the issues for a potential appeal by reducing the number of claims under consideration and clarifying the claimed structure.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submit that no combination of the cited references teaches, discloses or suggests the subject matter of the amended claims. The pending claims are therefore in condition for allowance, and Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of the claims.

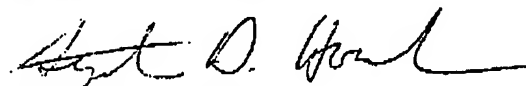
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In the event Applicant has overlooked the need for an extension of time, an additional extension of time, payment of fee, or additional payment of fee, Applicant hereby conditionally petitions therefor and authorizes that any charges be made to Deposit Account No. 20-0095, TAYLOR & AUST, P.C.

Should any question concerning any of the foregoing arise, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (260) 897-3400.

Respectfully submitted,



Stephen D. Horchem  
Registration No. 53,035

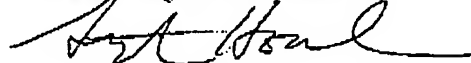
Agent for Applicant

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, on: November 11, 2005.

Stephen D. Horchem, Reg. No. 53,035

Name of Registered Representative



Signature

November 11, 2005

Date

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